



Doin' the Santa Shuffle ... Mike VE3ZG

A cold windy Saturday December 6 did not deter a hundred or more hardy souls, young and old from participating in the fourth annual Salvation Army Santa Shuffle starting from the Current River Recreation Centre out to the current river dam and back again. The walkers led out early followed by the runners about twenty minutes later. Walkers and runners could participate in various lengths, from the full 5 Kms to just a half kilometer and back. There were lots of rosy cheeks evident when all gathered back at the community centre for drinks and snacks. Paul VA3PDC, Marion VE3MJN, Bob VE3RVA, and Mike VE3ZG, for provided safety communications for this event. All runners returned safe and sound.



The crowd of runners waiting for Santa Claus to officially start them on their way.

Annual Christmas Parade

November 15, 2008 dawned bright, sunny and a cool -5C in Thunder Bay. A cold northwest wind blew in Santa Clause for the annual Christmas Parade sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Thunder Bay. On site at the Community Auditorium, members of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club set up our mobile trailer in preparation for lining up all the floats and various participants for the parade. Taking part were Paul Curtin VA3PDC who walked up and down the parking lot numerous times as the floats arrived and lined up; radioing the assigned float name and number to the operators in the trailer. Mark Vaillant VE3MVR toured the parking lot, directing parade participants to their respective floats. Bob Hansen VE3RVA was the information person, answering questions regarding location of floats in the lineup. Operating in the trailer were Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG, who communicated with the operators on the site, getting the names and location of the floats as they arrived and passing this information to Norm Bell VE3XRC who organized the appropriate sheets for the announcers describing the parade for television cameras. Our recorder was Marion Nawrocki VE3MJN who did all the recording



LARCateers hamming it up



and was responsible for providing the exact location of each float when parade participants requested the information. Approximately 65 entries, including Santa departed the parking lot to be viewed by the thousands who watched the parade. The only thing missing this year was a blanket of snow to make it more Christmas-like however no complaints were heard regarding the lack of the white stuff.

Mike VE3ZG

Left to right, Mike VE3ZG, Bob VE3RVA
Mark VE3MVR, and Paul VA3PDC.
Missing is Marion VE3MJN who took the picture.



Canadian Communications Giant Ted Rogers SK

from CBC News

Canadian media magnate Ted Rogers, founder and CEO of Rogers Communications, has died.

Rogers, 75, died at his Toronto home early Tuesday surrounded by loved ones, said a statement from the company's board of directors. He had recently been admitted to hospital for a cardiac condition.

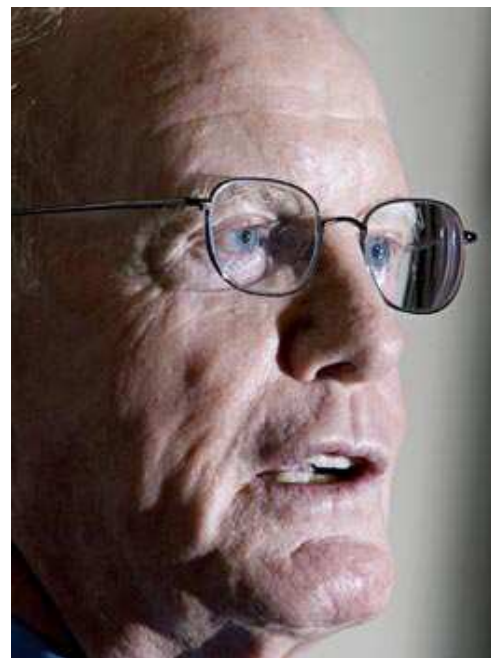
"We wish to express our deepest sympathy to Loretta and all of the Rogers family for this loss," said Alan

Horn, chairman of Rogers Communications and acting CEO.

"Ted Rogers was one of a kind who built this company from one FM radio station into Canada's largest wireless, cable and media company — a leader also in giving to the community through his and Loretta's many philanthropic initiatives. He will be sadly missed."

Rogers continued to play an active role in the company, which owns the Toronto Blue Jays, five Citytv television stations across the country, as well as the Rogers cable TV, wireless, radio and magazine businesses, including Maclean's and Chatelaine.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by the family. He is survived by his wife, Loretta, whom he married in 1963, and their four children — Edward, Lisa, Melinda and Martha.



LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske VE3JQ
Pat Doherty VE3PD
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

ABOUT US

The :Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to ve3snw@shaw.ca

LARC EXECUTIVE

President
Vacant
Vice-President
Bob Hansen VE3RVA 767-6924
Secretary
Karl VE3RRP
Treasurer
Joe Coghlan VE3TBX 344-6566
Directors
Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628
Randy Gottfred VA3OJ 474-0910
Doug VE3EFC
Brian Bolt VE3BCQ
Past President
Bill Unger VE3XT

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand - November 5, 2008 \$6,602.30

Income

Memberships	\$160.00
50/50 Draw	\$11.00
Bank Interest	\$0.05

Total Income \$171.05

Expenses

Thunder Bay Telephone	\$47.61
Bank Service Charges	\$1.00
Ares Equipment	\$123.46

Total Expenses \$172.07

Balance on Hand - December 3, 2008 \$6,601.28

Joe Coghlan - VE3TBX
Treasurer

LARC Emergency Coordinator

VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

ARES District Emergency Coordinator

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
Assistant

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

Public Service Events

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Amateur Radio

Accredited Examiner

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
lesnick@tbaytel.net

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 145.490 (-600) (100.0 Hz)
442.075 (+5 MHz)
144.390 APRS

VE3BGA (Hillcrest H.S.) 145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 123.0 Hz)
442.825 (+5 MHz) (100.0 Hz)
VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)

**Minutes for the
Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Meeting
Date: November 13, 2008**

Vice President, Bob Hansen VE3RVA Presiding.

Treasurer's Report:

Paul VA3PDC moved to accept the report as printed in the October Hi-Q. Seconded by Fred VE3FAL . Passed Unanimously.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Joe VE3TBX moved to accept the September meeting's minutes as printed in the October 2008 Hi-Q. Seconded by Brad VE3MXJ. Passed Unanimously.

Old Business:

Ham Classes:

The classes will appear in the Key. They will run 8 weeks on Thursday nights, minimum 10 students. They are called "Talk to the World". Jan 29th to Mar 26th. 7 to 10 PM. No class on March Break.

Public Service:

ARES:

Trillium Response 2008 - November 17 - 23, 2008.

Merv VE3TSA gave an excellent presentation during the meeting on handling and documenting RadioGrams.

Rotary Christmas Parade on Saturday November 15th. We have enough operators for this event.

The Salvation Army is asking for operators for the 5 km run around Boulevard Lake on December 6th, 2008. Current River Recreation Complex.

The Children's Centre Foundation sent a thank you note for helping in the Grand Kam Canoe and Kayak Tour last summer. They are having a volunteer appreciation night December 4th , RSVP November 28th.

Sibley Ski Tour in March 7, 2009.

Repeater News:

YQT was without power for several hours due to hydro maintenance. It switched to battery power and back to regular power automatically. A reminder that when the courtesy beep changes to a morse letter "B", it means it is on battery. There is a plan to have it switch to lower power when it on batteries, but this is not implemented yet.

Members are reminded to reserve the repeater for emergency use when it is on battery power.

CanWarn:

No extreme weather in the month.

Communication Trailer:

The trailer is at Bob's where it will be picked up for use at the Santa Claus parade. It will be stored for the winter at Fred's VE3FAL

75th Anniversary Committee

Minutes of the October 29th meeting are appended.

New Business

The website was renewed with higher memory to accommodate all the historical photos and data being added.

ARES

Tuesday Night VHF Net

Anyone wishing to act as Net Control Station on the Tuesday night VHF 2 M net please contact Brad VE3MXJ or Randy VA3OJ and they will schedule people on a monthly basis.

VE3ONN

VE3ONN is the new area station at the Salvation Army Headquarters on Cumberland St. It is the Ontario North Ares Emergency Operations Centre.

Cell Phone Legislation:

There was discussion on sending a letter to the Provincial Government regarding the new cell phone in cars legislation. It was noted that letters should be reasoned, level-headed, and not emotional in nature.

50/50 Draw winner: Clarence VE3WCW

Adjournment moved by Fred VE3FAL

For Sale:

Brand new, still in box Delhi Vhf-Uhf T.V. antenna.

Phone Bob VE3 RVA 767-6924

North East Regional Directors Report December 2008

The monthly meeting of the Regional Directors was held on November 25, starting at 2330Z.

One of the issues brought up at the meeting was much of the information on the Club Pages at the RAC website is old and obsolete. I would appreciate if you can check out the information for clubs in your area. If you notice any abnormalities please let me know.

Thanks to an enormous amount of work by Geoff Smith, VA3GS the 4th edition of the RAC Operating manual is now available from Radio Supply stores across Canada. We will not be selling them from RAC HQ.

Industry Canada has moved the Amateur Radio Service Center to Sault Ste. Marie effective immediately. It's nice to see the ARSC moved to the North East Ontario Region. This is the call sign issuing office only and all policy decisions will still be made in Ottawa.

On another good news front, here is some comforting numbers from Jim VE2VE, VP Technical Services who maintains a data base on the number on Amateurs in Canada. On June 1, 2008 there were 56656 Amateurs in Canada, and as of December 1 there were 57063 Amateurs. That is an increase of 380. In North / East Ontario we have 18 new Hams. While we are not beating them away, it is a trend in the right direction and throws cold water on the death of Amateur Radio.

As emissaries of RAC I would encourage you to mention at your club meetings that membership in RAC benefits all Amateurs in Canada. We still need these new hams to join RAC.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the most calm and peaceful wishes of this season. I hope you and your family get to enjoy some time together.

And a new radio under the tree wouldn't hurt.....

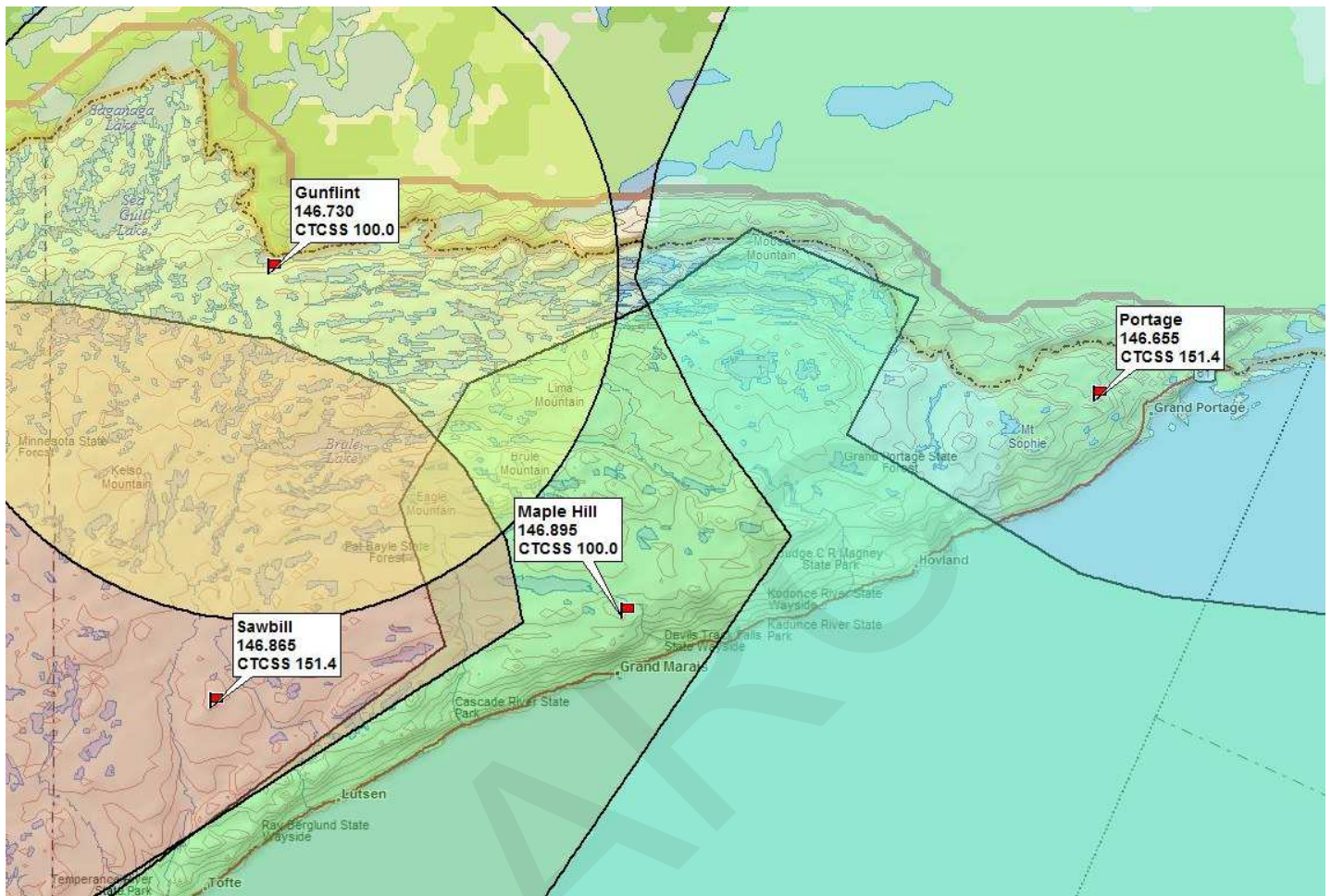
And as Dickens Tiny Tim would say...."God bless us each and every one"

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca.

73

Bill VE3XT
North East Ontario
Regional Director





BWARC Repeater Coverage Map to see the original
go to <http://www.boreal.org/bwarc/cover.html>

BWARC News is found at

<http://208.42.127.157/currentnews.pdf>

Please note that the Beargrease Dog Sled Race is scheduled for Jan 25-29 weather permitting. If you feel like getting involved there is an email address for Jayne in the news letter. Let her know and she will contact you if needed. There is a bit more race route this year and they may need some additional ops.

Randy

We would like to wish all of our friends and fellow amateur radio operators a wonderful Christmas and New Years. It's time to hang up the microphones and keys and spend some time with friends and family. Please enjoy the holiday safely and hope you get lots of toys!

Emergency communications lag: report

By: Ian MacLeod

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/35647614.html>

The Winnipeg Free Press - December 06, 2008

OTTAWA -- Despite the lessons of 9/11 and other emergencies, many police, firefighters and paramedics still cannot talk with one another because of aging and incompatible radio systems.

In an age of effortless wireless communications, emergency services leaders say their agencies are operating at half capacity because they can't readily communicate and co-ordinate with other public-safety agencies at emergencies.

The complaint is part of an extensive research report that paints a picture of public-safety radio systems across the country that are incapable of linking or are cobbled together with technological work-arounds.

On Monday, the heads of Canada's police chiefs, fire chiefs and EMS chiefs are to gather in Toronto to issue their first-ever joint distress call, demanding sustained federal government leadership and money to devise a national strategy to improve inter-agency radio communications, or "interoperability."

"Right now, fire, police and ambulance can be streaming to the same incident and they cannot talk to each other, and public perception is that they can, of course," says Larry Avery, of the office of public safety in Prince Edward Island.

Many agencies also can't talk with neighbouring services, the RCMP, coast guard or military, let alone with utility crews, transport officials or the commissionaires and private security guards holding 25-storey office towers in their hands.

"If a bomb goes off, who's the person that has the best information first? The police officer? The ambulance? Fire? No, it's the security guard inside the building. How do we talk to them right now? Well, it's called a telephone. Otherwise, we don't," says Ottawa police

Insp. Lance Valcour, of the Canadian Police Research Centre.

"What we're really talking about here is saving lives. But if we can't talk to each other, how can we be effective?"

The federal government appears to agree.

"Events such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Hurricane Katrina, the Ice Storm, various flooding incidents and wild fires have encouraged us to focus our efforts... (and) we have identified voice communications as an area requiring further improvement," Public Safety Canada said in a statement this week.

-- Canwest News Service
forwarded by ve3ua



December 2008

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 LARC Meeting	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Winter Solstice
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve	Happy Holidays!			